

## IT PAYS.

ANNA E. TREAT.

It pays to wear a smiling face,  
And laugh our troubles down,  
For all our little trials wait  
Our laughter or our frown.  
Beneath the magic of a smile,  
Our doubts will fade away,  
As melts the frost in early spring,  
Beneath the sunny ray.

It pays to make a worthy cause,  
By helping it, our own;  
To give the current of our lives,  
A true and noble tone.  
It pays to comfort heavy hearts,  
Oppressed with dull despair,  
And leave, in sorrow-darkened lives,  
One gleam of brightness there.

It pays to give a helping hand  
To eager, earnest youth,  
To note, with all their waywardness,  
Their courage and their truth;  
To strive, with sympathy and love,  
Their confidence to win;  
It pays to open wide the heart,  
And "let the sunshine in."

## Flashes of Fun.

"Mamma," cried a five-year-old girl, "I started to make my doll a bonnet, and it's come out a pair of pants."

"What made you assault your wife?" "Please your honor, I didn't know it was wrong to join the ranks of the strikers."

A little boy in Georgia, who wrote to Santa Claus for a pony, was wise enough to add: "Poserit: If he is a mule, please ty his behind legs."

A little girl's father sang in a church choir in Boston. Upon attending church here she noticed that the singers' seats were in the rear gallery. She inquired: "Does my pa sit in the attic and sing, same as they do here?"

A little boy came running into the house and told his mother that he had kicked another boy. "Why did you not stop and take the consequences?" inquired his mother. "Oh," he replied, "I took the consequences before I kicked him."

"Sam, you are not honest. Why did you put all the good peaches on the top of the measure and the little ones below?" "Same reason, sah, dat makes de front of your house marble, and the back gate chiefly slop bar'l, sah."

"I can't make my wife exercise, doctor; what shall I do?"

"Buy a dozen nice and let one of them loose every day in your wife's chamber when she gets up, and you will see the liveliest gymnasium you ever saw in your life."

"I don't wonder that people talk of the good old times," said the president of the gas company. "At one time it was dark for three days and three nights on a stretch, in the land of Egypt. What a big thing it would be for the gas companies if we could have something like that in these days!"

Colonel Fizzletop was under the painful necessity of administering a severe castigation to his son Johnny. After he had completed his labors he said, sternly, to the suffering victim: "Now tell me why I punished you?" "That's it," sobbed Johnny; "you nearly pounded the life out of me, and now you don't even know why you did it."

It is said that a bachelor can live in Richmond, Va., for \$300 a year. This shows how the cost of living has fallen in that city since the war closed. In 1863 a bachelor couldn't live a year in Richmond for less than \$13,000—in Confederate money. —*Norristown Herald*.

Prof. Willis, the physiognomist, says: "Beware of the girl that has black eyes; shun the girl with blue; and run from the girl with gray eyes." This practically restricts the choice of the foolish young man to the Circassian girl with pink eyes, who is not warranted genuine outside of the dime museum.

"Yes, sah," said the old colored man, "de fus year, I give fifty dollars to de church, dey call me Mista Richard Johnson, Esquah; de secon' year times was bad an' I couldn't giv' no moah than twenty-five dollars, an' dey call me Bruddah Johnson; de next yeah I couldn't giv' nuffin, and dey call me ole niggah Johnson."

## PREACHING AND PRACTICE.

"See here, Mr. Blank, what are you going out to-night for?" asked Mrs. Blank, with a threatening look.

"Big political meeting to-night," explained Mr. Blank, apologetically. "Political meeting, eh?" echoed Mrs. Blank. "You have been going to political meetings every night for five weeks, and if it hadn't been for me you would have worn your boots to bed every time."

"But just think how nice it would be if I should get nominated for something! Think of the loads of money I could rake in, and the nice furniture, and new clothes, and sealskin saccues, and—"

"That will do," interrupted Mrs. Blank, "I have heard that story before. You made a speech last night at the ward meeting, I hear."

"Yes," responded Mr. Blank, with pardonable pride.

"And I see by the two or three line notice of it in the newspaper, that the burden of your remarks was the 'office should seek the man, and not the man the office.' Now, you just take off that overcoat, and sit right down, and if any office comes along and knocks, I will let it right in."

## DIDN'T HAVE DIRT ENOUGH.

"My dear little man," said a prominent politician, as he came upon a boy playing in the centre of Chestnut street—"my dear little man, what are you doing?"

"Makin' a p'litical rally," the youth replied. The politician went his way, but chanced to be returning by the same route an hour later, he found the boy sitting on the edge of the sidewalk contemplating his work.

"Is it done, little man?"

"Bet yer sweet life it's done?"

"What is this, and this, and this?"

"That's the house, an' them's the seats, an' them's the people."

"Well, where's the speaker?"

"Didn't have dirt enough to make one," was the significant reply.—*Philadelphia Call*.

## MIND YOUR EYE.

Those "Windows of the Soul," our eyes deserve our careful attention. The following rules for our guidance in the care of our eyes are from an eminent oculist:

1. Avoid reading and study by poor light.
2. Light should come from the side and not from the back or front.
3. Do not read while ill or greatly fatigued.
4. Do not read while lying down.
5. Do not use the eyes too long without rest.
6. Read only clear and distinct print.

## THE CHINESE TALLOW TREE.

The high price of tallow of animal origin has caused the attention of soap and candle manufacturers to be turned toward vegetable fats and their origin. The tallow tree is a native of China. It produces a fruit which, according to the *Technische Seifensieder*, has a kernel covered with a thick layer of tallow, and contains a yellowish, aromatic oil, used for healing purposes. After the fruit has been gathered, which operation is effected in south China during the month of July, and in northern China in October, hot water is poured over it. When the water has cooled, the tallow can be taken off, as it forms a layer upon the surface. It is then carefully melted and run into molds made of bamboo cane, and is ready for the market. So, as our readers see, the operations are simple and expeditious enough. As to the product, it has a green color, it is crystalline in structure, melts at 40° C., and possesses a characteristic odor which is not at all disagreeable.

## THE VITALITY OF FROGS.

How long is it possible for frogs to live without air and food, has been a matter of experiment many times; but in the face of well established instances like those quoted it is difficult to conduct experiments that will be considered as being of a conclusive character. That these creatures should be able to live not for centuries only, but for ages, appears contradictory to all reason and common sense. In some cases frogs have been found in cretaceous rocks. The oldest fossil toads and frogs occur in tertiary rocks. If,

therefore, those found in cretaceous rocks had been there from their formation, it would be equivalent to saying that the live frog could be ages and ages older than its fossil relative. To most people such a declaration would be the height of absurdity. If thoroughly inquired into it would probably be discovered that in each case there was a fissure in the rocks or trees in which frogs have been found large enough for the admission of water and the embryo frog which has developed there. It has been assumed by some that the frog naturally contains an acid which by chemical action on the stone provides that the space at the frog's disposal shall be as large as its body. A second hypothesis is that not the egg, but the primary frog, scarcely larger than the egg itself, falls into the rock or tree and continues to grow, deriving air and food in the form of small insects from the water that penetrates to its abode. Certain it is that frogs, when artificially secured in air-tight and water-tight vessels, speedily die. Experiments made by members of the French Academy a century ago proved this. Milne Edwards early in the present century inclosed frogs in vessels impervious to air, and the creatures speedily perished. Three frogs were once inclosed in a close box for eighteen months, at the end of which time one was dead, and the remainder in a dying condition. Dr. McCartney buried a toad in a vessel covered with a slate about a foot deep in the ground. At the end of a fortnight it seemed well, and as plump as before. When, however, he inclosed the same toad in an air-tight vessel and buried it, it soon died, and at the end of a week was much decayed. Dr. Buckland made some experiments which are claimed as conclusive. He placed twelve toads separately in twelve holes cut in blocks of hard flinty sandstone. They were firmly sealed in. The imprisoned animals were buried three feet deep on Nov. 26, 1825. At the same time four toads were deposited in holes cut in the heart of an apple tree, and the opening securely plugged. Four others were also placed in plaster of Paris, covered with luting. On Dec. 10, 1826, all the buried toads were examined. All in the hard stone and in the tree, and two in the plaster of Paris were dead. The remainder were dying, but some placed in a softer stone were in tolerable good health, and some were actually fatter than when placed in the holes. From this it would appear that in positions where water can penetrate, frogs may live and even thrive, although buried at a considerable depth, entirely away from the light and any visible means of subsistence.—*Chambers' Journal*.

## TOMATOES AS FOOD.

It is known that the essence of tomato made into a pill acts on the liver, and to that extent must counteract biliousness and all forms of fever. The free use of figs is known to multitudes to obviate constipation in a great many cases. Every intelligent druggist knows that a tablespoonful of white mustard seed swallowed without chewing is useful in the same direction, has been used for that purpose for a century, and for that reason is kept in every good drugstore for sale. The seed pass from the stomach unchanged, but are supposed "to act" on the bowels delicately. The seeds of the tomato act in the same manner; hence the fruit, while it is palatable to the taste and nutritious to the body, has a health-promoting effect on the liver and the digestive system.—*Hall's Journal of Health*.

A REMEDY FOR RHEUMATISM.—I've been doing nothing so long that I'm not much account. I tried pulling one end of a cross-cut saw to-day, and it made me blow like a porpoise. I had to get a substitute, and then I tried my favorite amusement of chopping with an axe, and I couldn't hold out long at that. I took a walk over the farm, and when I got back I tumbled down on the bed to rest and Mrs. Arp asked me if I was sick. But I am going to keep it up until I get my wind back. Exercise is the best medicine in the world and the cheapest. My father said it was the best remedy for rheumatism he ever tried. When the pains struck him bad he would get up and take a tramp over the farm, and would go in a walk or a fox trot, according to suffering.—*Bill Arp, in the Atlanta Constitution*.

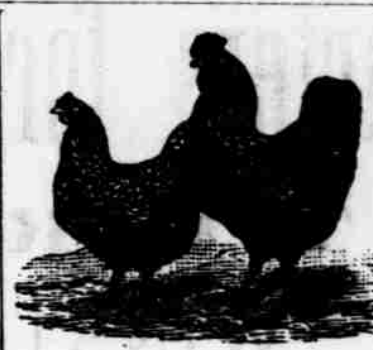
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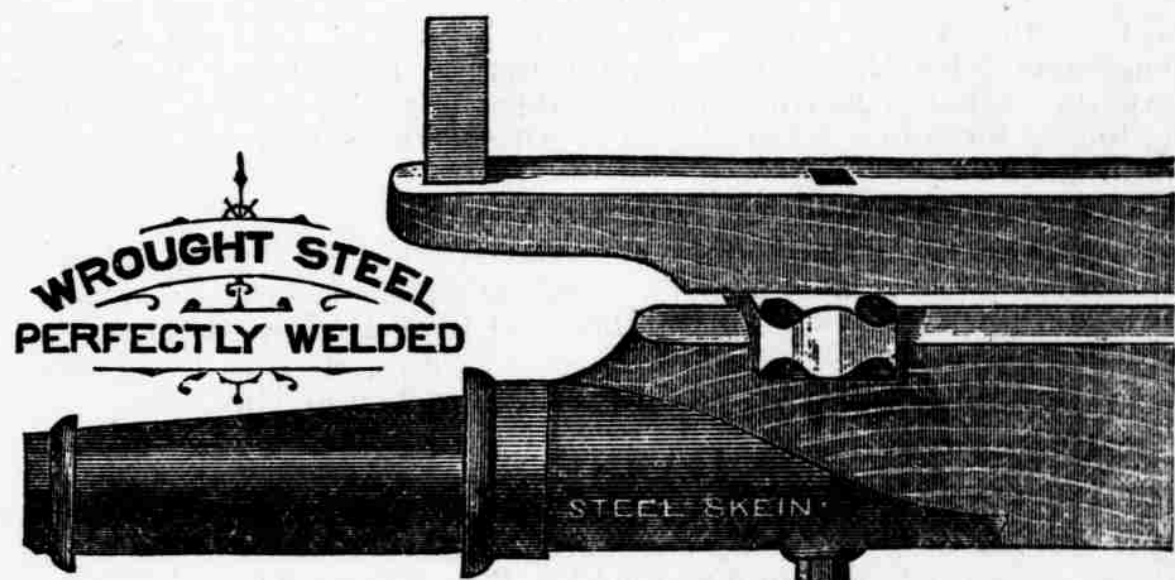


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